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ABSTRACT

This is the second report on the placement, performance, and persistence of new 16- to 19-year old high school graduates from the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) and other new high school graduates enrolling at the City College of San Francisco (CCSF). The current report covers 1,532 students (out of more than 8,000 new students) who enrolled in the fall 1999 semester. It contains 10 tables that examine initial placement in English, English as a Second Language (ESL), and mathematics; student performance in fall 1999 and spring 2000; persistence/re-enrollment from fall to spring; and a comparison table of fall 1998 and fall 1999 SFUSD student cohorts. There are three placement categories: (1) the "basic skills" level strongly suggests that the student needs substantial remediation before applying for college level classes; (2) "degree applicable" is a remedial placement, but these classes can be applied toward the 60 units required for the Associate in Arts degree; and (3) "transfer level" courses fulfill a transfer requirement to either the University of California (UC) or the California State University (CSU) system. The study found that 56% of SFUSD graduates placed into basic skills in English, while 46% placed into transfer-level English; in mathematics, 45% placed in basic skills, and 17% in transfer-level; in ESL, 15% placed into basic skills. (Contains numerous tables.) (NB)

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The High School Report

Placement, Performance and Persistence of New SFUSD Graduates at CCSF

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The High School Report

Placement, Performance and Persistence of New SFUSD Graduates at CCSF

City College of San Francisco

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Executive Summary

This is the second Report on the placement, performance, and persistence of new 16-to-19 year old high school graduates from San Francisco Unified School District and other new high school graduates enrolling at the City College of San Francisco. The current report covers 1,532 such students (out of over 8,000 new students) who enrolled in the Fall 1999 semester. The prior report covered a similar group of students from Fall 1998.

Placement

- 54% of SFUSD graduates who enrolled at City College in Fall 1999 and took the **English** placement test placed into the basic skills sequence in English; 46% placed into a transfer level English course.
- 45% of SFUSD graduates taking the **mathematics** placement test placed into basic skills mathematics, 17% in transfer level, and 38% in CCSF associate degree applicable level.
- 15% of SFUSD graduates taking the **ESL** placement test placed into basic skills.
- SFUSD students placed into roughly the same math and ESL levels as non-SFUSD new entering CCSF students. This did not hold true in English where SFUSD students placed into lower levels than non-SFUSD students.

Student Performance

- Fall 1999 SFUSD graduates had an equivalent of 56 percent of units passed (with grades of A, B, C, or CR).
- Non-SFUSD students outperformed SFUSD students in all academic areas within the college.

Persistence/Re-enrollment

- SFUSD graduates appear to persist from Fall to Spring semester in greater numbers than non-SFUSD first time students. 79% of SFUSD students re-enrolled for the Spring 2000 semester while 70% of non-SFUSD students reenrolled.

Comparison Fall 1998 to Fall 1999 Cohorts

- ESL students significantly improved their placement in ESL from basic skills to degree applicable and transfer level courses
- Fall 1999 cohort took more units than Fall 1998 students (10.17 vs. 9.95)
- Fall 1999 graduates had a higher GPA than Fall 1998 graduates (2.19 versus 2.10).
- The number of new SFUSD graduates enrolling at CCSF increased by 4% from Fall 1998 to Fall 1999; the number of non-SFUSD graduates declined by 2.5%.
- SFUSD students' passing percent in three of the four most heavily enrolled academic areas declined slightly from the prior year.

Introduction

This report is a second look at the placement, performance, and persistence of SFUSD graduates enrolling as new credit students at City College of San Francisco in Fall 1999. The first report (August 1999) examined SFUSD graduates enrolling in Fall 1998.

Students were included in this cohort if they were new students to City College of San Francisco in the Fall 1999, were between the ages of 16 and 19 (98% of the students were 18 or 19) and indicated on their credit application for admission that they were high school graduates. On the credit application, they also indicated their high school of origin that, for the purposes of this report, was broken out into either SFUSD or non-SFUSD. Of the approximately 8,000 new students at CCSF each Fall, 1532 met these tracking criteria. Note that only some of these students received an English, mathematics or ESL placement. Placement is not required for students taking fewer than 9 units during their first semester.

The report contains ten tables which examine initial placement in English, ESL and mathematics, student performance in Fall 1999 and Spring 2000, persistence/re-enrollment from Fall to Spring[1] and a comparison table of Fall 1998 and Fall 1999 SFUSD student cohorts.

English, Math and ESL Placement Levels

The first three tables present the number and percent of new students who place at each of three levels in English, mathematics and ESL. To understand these tables one must understand the placement categories of basic skills, degree applicable and transfer level:

Basic Skills is the lowest level placement. It strongly suggests that students need substantial remediation before attempting college level classes.

Degree Applicable is a remedial placement but units taken in these classes can be applied towards the 60 units needed for graduation with the associate degree from City College. **Degree Applicable (English Requirement)** is used for ESL only. It indicates placement into a high level ESL course which, if passed, meets the English requirement for an Associate degree.

Transfer Level courses fulfill a transfer requirement to either the UC or CSU system. English 1A (freshman composition), for example, is a CSU transfer level course. The

[1] Several cautions need to be made about the data. First, since both high school of origin and age are self-reported fields we cannot be sure the data is absolutely reliable (although we do think that students correctly identify their age and high school in general). Second, we used unweighted averages for enrolled units, GPA and passing percent in the first report for Fall 1998 students. Unweighted averages treat each high school group, whether large or small in number, equivalently in forming the overall average. In the present report, both the weighted and unweighted averages are presented. The weighted average reflects the number of students *from each high school* so that the SFUSD average is not reduced by a small group of students from a specific high school. The weighted average provides a better comparison number to the averages for other high school groups (also weighted). It is this average that is quoted in this report.

next higher course, English 1B, is a UC transfer level course. These courses meet the English requirements for graduation in the CSU and UC systems.

Initial Placement: English, Mathematics and ESL

Tables 1, 2 and 3 report the placement levels of SFUSD graduates in English, mathematics and ESL. About half of high school graduates place at the basic skills levels in English and mathematics. SFUSD students place similarly to the overall average in mathematics and somewhat lower in English. Their basic skills placement in ESL is equivalent to other students.

Table 1

English Placement
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Fall 1999

High School		Basic Skills		College Level (Transfer)		Total Number
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Alternative	Independence	8	42%	11	58%	19
	Internat'l Studies Acad	17	63%	10	37%	27
	John O'Connell Technical	10	71%	4	29%	14
	Lowell	3	4%	79	96%	82
	Phillip Burton	32	63%	19	37%	51
	Raoul Wallenberg	12	55%	10	45%	22
	Thurgood Marshall	15	75%	5	25%	20
Alternative Total		*97*	*41%*	*138*	*59%*	*235*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	44	49%	45	51%	89
	Balboa	33	72%	13	28%	46
	Galileo	20	61%	13	39%	33
	George Washington	71	61%	45	39%	116
	J. Eugene McAteer	20	57%	15	43%	35
	Mission	32	73%	12	27%	44
Comprehensive Total		*220*	*61%*	*143*	*39%*	*363*
Continuation	Downtown Continuation		0%	1	100%	1
	Ida B. Wells	9	82%	2	18%	11
	Mark Twain	1	100%		0%	1
Continuation Total		*10*	*77%*	*3*	*23%*	*13*
SFUSD Total		**327**	**54%**	**284**	**46%**	**611**
Other	Other	23	50%	23	50%	46
	Other CA HS	107	44%	136	56%	243
	Other Foreign	3	60%	2	40%	5
	Other SF HS	45	36%	79	64%	124
	Other US HS	25	40%	38	60%	63
Other Total		**203**	**42%**	**278**	**58%**	**481**
Grand Total		530	49%	562	51%	1092

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Table 2

Mathematics Placement
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Fall 1999

High School		Basic Skills Number	Basic Skills Percent	College Level Transfer Number	College Level Transfer Percent	Degree Applicable Number	Degree Applicable Percent	Total Number
Alternative	Independence	14	61%		0%	9	39%	23
	Internat'l Studies Acad	11	37%	8	27%	11	37%	30
	John O'Connell Technical	12	71%	1	6%	4	24%	17
	Lowell	3	4%	49	66%	22	30%	74
	Phillip Burton	29	55%	2	4%	22	42%	53
	Raoul Wallenberg	10	43%	1	4%	12	52%	23
	Thurgood Marshall	13	62%		0%	8	38%	21
Alternative Total		*92*	*38%*	*61*	*25%*	*88*	*37%*	*241*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	38	35%	24	22%	46	43%	108
	Balboa	42	72%	1	2%	15	26%	58
	Galileo	25	42%	8	13%	27	45%	60
	George Washington	60	41%	25	17%	61	42%	146
	J. Eugene McAteer	32	59%	1	2%	21	39%	54
	Mission	32	60%	3	6%	18	34%	53
Comprehensive Total		*229*	*48%*	*62*	*13%*	*188*	*39%*	*479*
Continuation	Downtown Continuation	1	100%		0%		0%	1
	Ida B. Wells	7	64%		0%	4	36%	11
	Mark Twain	1	33%		0%	2	67%	3
Continuation Total		*9*	*60%*		*0%*	*6*	*40%*	*15*
SFUSD Total		**330**	**45%**	**123**	**17%**	**282**	**38%**	**735**
Other	Other	29	26%	35	32%	46	42%	110
	Other CA HS	146	56%	17	7%	97	37%	260
	Other Foreign	8	50%	4	25%	4	25%	16
	Other SF HS	55	43%	15	12%	59	46%	129
	Other US HS	31	51%	5	8%	25	41%	61
Other Total		**269**	**47%**	**76**	**13%**	**231**	**40%**	**576**
Grand Total		599	46%	199	15%	513	39%	1311

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Table 3

ESL Placement
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Fall 1999

High School		Basic Skills Number	Basic Skills Percent	Degree Applicable (General) Number	Degree Applicable (General) Percent	Degree Applicable (English Requirement) Number	Degree Applicable (English Requirement) Percent	Total Number
Alternative	Independence		0%	1	33%	2	67%	3
	Internat'l Studies Acad	2	29%	4	57%	1	14%	7
	John O'Connell Technical		0%	2	67%	1	33%	3
	Phillip Burton		0%	3	75%	1	25%	4
	Raoul Wallenberg		0%	2	100%		0%	2
	Thurgood Marshall		0%	2	100%		0%	2
Alternative Total		*2*	*10%*	*14*	*67%*	*5*	*24%*	*21*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	3	10%	21	72%	5	17%	29
	Balboa		0%	12	92%	1	8%	13
	Galileo	9	33%	17	63%	1	4%	27
	George Washington	3	7%	33	79%	6	14%	42
	J. Eugene McAteer	5	20%	15	60%	5	20%	25
	Mission	4	36%	7	64%		0%	11
Comprehensive Total		*24*	*16%*	*105*	*71%*	*18*	*12%*	*147*
Continuation	Ida B. Wells		0%	2	100%		0%	2
	Mark Twain		0%	1	50%	1	50%	2
Continuation Total			*0%*	*3*	*75%*	*1*	*25%*	*4*
SFUSD Total		**26**	**15%**	**122**	**71%**	**24**	**14%**	**172**
Other	Other	7	10%	45	65%	17	25%	69
	Other CA HS	8	32%	16	64%	1	4%	25
	Other Foreign	3	30%	6	60%	1	10%	10
	Other SF HS	2	17%	8	67%	2	17%	12
	Other US HS		0%	1	50%	1	50%	2
Other Total		**20**	**17%**	**76**	**64%**	**22**	**19%**	**118**
Grand Total		46	16%	198	68%	46	16%	290

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Student Performance

Table 4 presents an overall picture of Fall semester performance of SFUSD graduates at CCSF. Students from the alternative high schools perform better than students from the comprehensive or continuation high schools. Table 5 provides data on student performance in four academic areas: Liberal Arts, Social Science, ESL, and Math/Science. Student success varies both by high school as well as academic area.

Table 4

Enrollment and Success
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Fall 1999

High School		Number	Enrolled Units	GPA	Passing Percent
Alternative	Independence	26	8.02	1.65	37%
	Inter at'l Studies Acad	31	10.68	2.44	60%
	John O'Connell Technical	18	8.44	1.86	47%
	Lowell	92	12.14	2.97	77%
	Phillip Burton	60	9.35	2.32	59%
	Raoul Wallenberg	26	10.12	2.25	39%
	Thurgood Marshall	25	9.20	1.73	50%
Alternative Total	*Unweighted*	*278*	*9.71*	*2.17*	*53%*
	Weighted	*278*	*10.30*	*2.40*	*60%*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	126	10.67	2.17	62%
	Balboa	60	9.22	1.44	34%
	Galileo	69	9.94	2.25	56%
	George Washington	151	10.72	2.27	62%
	J. Eugene McAteer	61	9.21	2.34	52%
	Mission	56	9.71	1.75	42%
Comprehensive Total	*Unweighted*	*523*	*9.91*	*2.04*	*51%*
	Weighted	*523*	*10.15*	*2.10*	*55%*
Continuation	Downtown Continuation	1	15.00	1.50	20%
	Ida B. Wells	13	7.50	1.56	28%
	Mark Twain	4	10.50	1.73	25%
Continuation Total	*Unweighted*	*18*	*11.00*	*1.60*	*24%*
	Weighted	*18*	*8.58*	*1.59*	*27%*
SFUSD Total	**Unweighted**	**819**	**10.03**	**2.01**	**47%**
	Weighted	**819**	**10.17**	**2.19**	**56%**
Other	Other	127	10.90	2.48	68%
	Other CA HS	326	9.38	2.23	54%
	Other Foreign	18	9.56	2.91	69%
	Other SF HS	160	9.78	2.08	56%
	Other US HS	82	9.89	2.39	58%
Other Total	**Unweighted**	**713**	**9.90**	**2.42**	**61%**
	Weighted	**713**	**9.80**	**2.27**	**58%**
Grand Total	Unweighted	1532	10.00	2.11	50%
	Weighted	1532	10.00	2.23	57%

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Table 5

Passing Percent of Units in Four Academic Areas
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Fall 1999

High School		Liberal Arts	Social Science	ESL	Math and Science
Alternative	Independence	40%	49%	100%	23%
	Internat'l Studies Acad	68%	62%	75%	58%
	John O'Connell Technical	44%	70%	33%	38%
	Lowell	78%	81%	No enrollment	78%
	Phillip Burton	63%	48%	50%	52%
	Raoul Wallenberg	37%	57%	100%	44%
	Thurgood Marshall	65%	53%	No enrollment	11%
Alternative Total	*Unweighted*	*56%*	*60%*	*72%*	*43%*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	70%	62%	63%	62%
	Balboa	38%	39%	48%	22%
	Galileo	37%	43%	80%	55%
	George Washington	64%	62%	78%	60%
	J. Eugene McAteer	61%	50%	48%	68%
	Mission	53%	41%	60%	32%
Comprehensive Total	*Unweighted*	*54%*	*49%*	*63%*	*50%*
Continuation	Downtown Continuation	50%	0%	No enrollment	0%
	Ida B. Wells	42%	22%	No enrollment	43%
	Mark Twain	No enrollment	33%	No enrollment	50%
Continuation Total	*Unweighted*	*46%*	*19%*	No enrollment	*31%*
SFUSD Total	**Unweighted**	**54%**	**48%**	**67%**	**43%**
Other	Other	64%	68%	80%	67%
	Other CA HS	56%	56%	59%	43%
	Other Foreign	77%	63%	82%	65%
	Other SF HS	59%	61%	57%	44%
	Other US HS	60%	57%	100%	45%
Other Total	**Unweighted**	**63%**	**61%**	**76%**	**53%**
Grand Total	Unweighted	56%	51%	70%	46%

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Persistence/Re-enrollment

Table 6 presents data on re-enrollment (persistence) of SFUSD students compared to non-SFUSD students for Spring 2000. Re-enrollment in the Spring was 10 to 15 percent higher for many SFUSD high schools compared to other California and U.S. high schools.

Table 6

Re-enrollment in the Spring 2000
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Who Initially Enrolled Fall 1999

High School		No Spring Enrollment		Spring Enrollment		Total Number
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Alternative	Independence	9	35%	17	65%	26
	Internat'l Studies Acad	3	10%	28	90%	31
	John O'Connell Technical	5	28%	13	72%	18
	Lowell	19	21%	73	79%	92
	Phillip Burton	17	28%	43	72%	60
	Raoul Wallenberg	8	31%	18	69%	26
	Thurgood Marshall	6	24%	19	76%	25
Alternative Total		*67*	*24%*	*211*	*76%*	*278*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	18	14%	108	86%	126
	Balboa	19	32%	41	68%	60
	Galileo	7	10%	62	90%	69
	George Washington	21	14%	130	86%	151
	J. Eugene McAteer	20	33%	41	67%	61
	Mission	13	23%	43	77%	56
Comprehensive Total		*98*	*19%*	*425*	*81%*	*523*
Continuation	Downtown Continuation	1	100%		0%	1
	Ida B. Wells	3	23%	10	77%	13
	Mark Twain	1	25%	3	75%	4
Continuation Total		*5*	*28%*	*13*	*72%*	*18*
SFUSD Total		**170**	**21%**	**649**	**79%**	**819**
Other	Other	31	24%	96	76%	127
	Other CA HS	110	34%	216	66%	326
	Other Foreign	6	33%	12	67%	18
	Other SF HS	35	22%	125	78%	160
	Other US HS	32	39%	50	61%	82
Other Total		**214**	**30%**	**499**	**70%**	**713**
Grand Total		384	25%	1148	75%	1532

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Spring Performance

The final four tables of this report reveal that the academic performance of SFUSD students continued to be weak in their second term; in some instances overall Grade Point Averages were less than the Fall term. Many reasons nay account for the continued weak performance of SFUSD students-- an examination CCSF should undertake in the near future.

Table 7

Success in the Spring 2000
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Who Initially Enrolled Fall 1999

High School		Number	Enrolled Units	GPA	Passing Percent
Alternative	Independence	17	9.47	1.69	42%
	Internat'l Studies Acad	28	11.68	2.23	56%
	John O'Connell Technical	13	8.31	1.54	43%
	Lowell	73	12.95	2.83	71%
	Phillip Burton	43	10.63	1.95	51%
	Raoul Wallenberg	18	11.39	1.91	53%
	Thurgood Marshall	19	11.68	2.19	59%
Alternative	*Unweighted*	*211*	*10.87*	*2.05*	*54%*
	Weighted	*211*	*11.49*	*2.26*	*58%*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	108	11.87	2.18	63%
	Balboa	41	10.59	1.87	38%
	Galileo	62	11.55	2.03	53%
	George Washington	130	12.30	2.24	61%
	J. Eugene McAteer	41	11.71	2.26	61%
	Mission	43	11.02	1.81	40%
Comprehensive	*Unweighted*	*425*	*11.51*	*2.07*	*53%*
	Weighted	*425*	*11.73*	*2.12*	*56%*
Continuation	Ida B. Wells	10	8.20	1.81	33%
	Mark Twain	3	11.00	2.00	26%
Continuation	*Unweighted*	*13*	*9.60*	*1.90*	*29%*
	Weighted	*13*	*8.85*	*1.85*	*32%*
SFUSD Total	**Unweighted**	**649**	**10.96**	**2.04**	**50%**
	Weighted	**649**	**11.59**	**2.16**	**56%**
Other	Other	96	12.74	2.50	72%
	Other CA HS	216	11.23	2.26	57%
	Other Foreign	12	11.42	2.65	68%
	Other SF HS	125	10.78	2.23	56%
	Other US HS	50	12.76	2.46	69%
Other Total	**Unweighted**	**499**	**11.79**	**2.42**	**64%**
	Weighted	**499**	**11.57**	**2.33**	**61%**
Grand Total	Unweighted	1148	11.16	2.13	54%
	Weighted	1148	11.58	2.23	58%

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Table 8

Passing Percent of Units in Four Academic Areas, Spring 2000
New High School Graduates at CCSF
Who Initially Enrolled Fall 1999

High School		Liberal Arts	Social Science	ESL	Math and Science
Alternative	Independence	43%	43%	0%	35%
	Internat'l Studies Acad	72%	61%	47%	58%
	John O'Connell Technical	51%	17%	No enrollment	53%
	Lowell	68%	77%	No enrollment	68%
	Phillip Burton	53%	56%	100%	47%
	Raoul Wallenberg	50%	44%	100%	59%
	Thurgood Marshall	68%	63%	No enrollment	43%
Alternative	*Unweighted*	*58%*	*52%*	*62%*	*52%*
Comprehensive	Abraham Lincoln	71%	65%	69%	56%
	Balboa	51%	36%	56%	37%
	Galileo	53%	53%	67%	55%
	George Washington	67%	59%	67%	60%
	J. Eugene McAteer	65%	53%	50%	58%
	Mission	45%	33%	50%	34%
Comprehensive	*Unweighted*	*59%*	*50%*	*60%*	*50%*
Continuation	Ida B. Wells	50%	21%	No enrollment	50%
	Mark Twain	50%	0%	0%	33%
Continuation	*Unweighted*	*50%*	*11%*	*0%*	*42%*
SFUSD Total	**Unweighted**	**57%**	**45%**	**55%**	**50%**
Other	Other	81%	76%	80%	66%
	Other CA HS	62%	61%	60%	42%
	Other Foreign	73%	80%	80%	74%
	Other SF HS	65%	62%	49%	45%
	Other US HS	68%	74%	100%	58%
Other Total	**Unweighted**	**70%**	**71%**	**74%**	**57%**
Grand Total	Unweighted	60%	52%	61%	51%

Comparison of Fall 1998 to Fall 1999 Graduates

Tables 9 and 10 provide a comparison of the two SFUSD cohorts, Fall 1998 and Fall 1999 graduates entering City College, in terms of placement in gateway programs and performance and persistence. In Table 9 the only significant change occurs with ESL students achieving higher placement levels in Fall 1999 over Fall 1998. Table 10 indicates a slight upward shift in the number of enrolled units and a higher GPA average for Fall 1999 entering graduates.

Table 9

Placement
SFUSD 1998 to 1999 Student Cohort Comparison

ENGLISH

	REMEDIAL ENGLISH		COLLEGE LEVEL		
	Basic Skills		College Level Transfer		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Fall 1998	279	52%	258	48%	537
Fall 1999	327	54%	284	46%	611

MATHEMATICS

	Basic Skills		College Level Transfer		Degree Applicable		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Fall 1998	310	44%	106	15%	284	41%	700
Fall 1999	330	45%	123	17%	282	38%	735

ESL

	Basic Skills		Degree Applicable (General)		Degree Applicable (English Requirement)		Total
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Fall 1998	54	26%	138	65%	19	9%	211
Fall 1999	26	15%	122	71%	24	14%	172

Table 10

Enrollment, Success and Passing Percents
Initial Fall Term and Subsequent Spring Term
SFUSD 1998 to 1999 Student Cohort Comparison

ENROLLMENT AND SUCCESS, FALL

	Initial enrollment	Enrolled Units		GPA		Passing Percent	
	#	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)
Fall 1998	789	9.04	9.95	1.87	2.10	50%	57%
Fall 1999	819	10.03	10.17	2.01	2.19	47%	56%

PASSING PERCENTS, FALL

	Liberal Arts	Social Science	ESL	Math and Science
Fall 1998	58%	52%	64%	46%
Fall 1999	54%	48%	67%	43%

ENROLLMENT AND SUCCESS, SPRING

	Re-enrollment		Enrolled Units		GPA		Passing Percent	
	#	%	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)	(Unweighted)	(Weighted)
Fall 1998	625	79%	10.19	11.25	2.05	2.11	50%	55%
Fall 1999	649	79%	10.94	11.57	2.04	2.16	50%	56%

PASSING PERCENTS, SPRING

	Liberal Arts	Social Science	ESL	Math and Science
Fall 1998	55%	58%	71%	49%
Fall 1999	57%	45%	55%	50%